

ABSTRACT

A method for applying a pattern to a target surface includes the steps of applying a coating of membrane material over a selected portion of a substrate. The substrate imparts a pattern to the membrane material corresponding to a pattern to be applied to the target surface. A support member is positioned in contact with an outer portion of the membrane material. The support member has a higher rigidity than the membrane material. The method may also combine the steps of curing the membrane material to bond the support member to the membrane. When bonded to the membrane, the support member maintains at least a portion of the membrane in a substantially taut condition to prevent a portion of the membrane from folding onto itself. The membrane is then employed to impart the pattern to the target surface.

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